(b) The line from Banspani to Joruli (11 Km) has been completed. The section from Joruli to Keonjhar (48 Km) is nearing completion. On the rest of the section, earthwork, bridgework and other ancillary works are in progress.

(c) The project is likely to be completed during 2004-05.

(d) To expedite completion of the project, part funds have been tied up through the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Beggars in Karnataka Express

665. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that beggar menace in Karnataka Express has increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) Incidents of entry of beggars in trains come to notice from time to time. Regular as well as special checks are conducted by ticket checking staff in association with Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police to remove such elements from Railway premises. Separate train-wise statistics are not maintained.

SEB's dues to Railways

666. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the State Electricity Boards who owe huge amount of Railways as on 30th June, 2003;

(b) whether Railways has taken up the matter with State Chief Ministers for clearance of the dues; and

(c) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) A statement is enclosed. (See below).